

List of Attorneys in NORDRHEIN-WESTFALEN

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RETAINING A FOREIGN ATTORNEY

In retaining the services of a foreign attorney concerning a private dispute abroad, the following quidelines may assist you in protecting your interests.

1. Selecting an Attorney

When you receive a list of attorneys, it is recommended that you contact several attorneys, briefly describing the nature of the services you desire. Before you decide which attorney to engage, request a written schedule of fees generally charged for the services you need, inquire whether the attorney is fluent in the English language, and become acquainted with a particular attorney. Do not submit any documents or funds until you are certain that the attorney understands your problem and is willing to handle your case.

2. Barristers and Solicitors

In some foreign cities, districts, or provinces it may be necessary for you to retain the services of both a solicitor and a barrister. In such jurisdiction, barristers are allowed to appear in court, including superior courts and courts of appeal. Solicitors are allowed to advise clients, represent them in the lower courts and prepare cases for barristers to try in the higher courts.

3. Notaries Public, "Notaries" and "Huissiers"

In some foreign countries, notaries public, "notaries" and "huissiers" can perform many of the functions performed by attorneys in the United States. For example, foreign notaries frequently draft instruments, wills, and conveyances. In some countries, a notary public is an official, appointed by the Ministry of Justice, whose functions include not only the preparation of documents, but the administration and settlement of estates. Such notaries may serve as repositories for wills and are empowered to serve legal documents. (In some countries, "huissiers" serve documents.) They are not lawyers, but are very specialized members of the legal profession. They may not plead cases in court.

4. Coordination with Counsel in the U.S.

American attorneys may not be in a position to represent your interests abroad, particularly because they will not be permitted to participate in foreign court proceedings under the laws of the foreign country. American attorneys experienced in international law may be helpful in

^{*} The asterisk refers to attorneys who have expressed a special interest in criminal law cases.

explaining the complex international issues involved in your case and some may have associates or partners abroad to whom they can refer you.

5. Legal Aid Association

There may be facilities in a foreign country for low cost or free legal services. Ask the local bar association or the Ministry of Justice about the availability of legal aid. You may also wish to consult the European Judicial Network Webpage:

http://ec.europa.eu/civiljustice/legal aid/legal aid int en.htm

6. How to Deal with Your Foreign Attorney

Always research the attorney's qualifications and experience. Find out how the attorney plans to represent you. Ask specific questions and expect the attorney to explain legal activities in a language that you can understand. Ask what fees the attorney, notary, or huissier charges and how the attorney expects to be paid. Notaries and huissiers are usually government officials who must charge fees established by their government. Some attorneys may expect to be paid in advance; some may demand payment after each action they take on your behalf, refusing to take further action until they are paid. Some may take the case on a percentage basis, collecting a pre-arranged percentage of the moneys awarded to you by the foreign court.

Ask that your attorney keep you informed of the progress of your case according to a preestablished schedule. Remember that most court calendars are crowded. You may, therefore, wish to ask the attorney to send you monthly reports, even though no real developments have ensued, simply to satisfy your doubts about the progress of the case. Have your attorney analyze your case, giving you the positive and negative aspects and probable outcome. Do not expect your attorney to give a simple answer to a complex legal problem. Be sure that you understand the technical language in any contract or other legal document prepared by your attorney before you sign it. Keep your attorney fully informed of any new developments in the case. If you need to provide complex or technical documents to your attorney, you may wish to consider having the documents translated into the native language. An elementary knowledge of English may not be enough to enable the attorney to understand the documents you provide. Tell the attorney every relevant fact in order to get the best representation of your interests. Find out how much time the attorney anticipates the case may take to complete. Request copies of all letters and documents prepared on your behalf.

7. Assistance of the Department of State

If you have additional questions, you may contact:

Office of Citizens Consular Services
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520
Tel: (202) 647-3444

8. Complaints against Foreign Attorneys

If the services of your attorney prove unsatisfactory, in addition to notifying the Department of State and the U.S. Embassy or Consulate abroad, you may address your complaints to the local (foreign) bar association.

AACHEN

*ASHCROFT, Michael A.C.

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Specialty: Family Law, Adoptions, Child Custody, Parental Child Abduction, Marriage/

Divorce. Commercial/Business Law. Civil Law. Criminal Law. Contracts.

Labor Relations, Auto/Accidents

Language: English (native)

*GATZWEILER, Dr. Cliff

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Specialty: Criminal Law (defense lawyer and legal representative of victims)

Language: English (fluent), French, Spanish

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Specialty: Insurance, Civil Law, Criminal Law, Damages, Narcotics, Auto/Accidents

Language: English (good), French (good)

SCHNEIDER & DR. WILLMS, ANWALTSGEMEINSCHAFT

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KANAND, Norbert

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Specialty: Insurance, Commercial/Business Law, Criminal Law, Transportation Law,

Auto/Accidents

Language: English (good)

SCHEERER-BUCHMEIER, Dr., Heike

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<u>Language</u>: English (fluent) **STEINBUSCH, Friedhelm**

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Specialty: Family Law, Adoptions, Child Custody, Parental Child Abduction,

Marriage/Divorce, Civil Law, Estates

Language: English (good), French, Italian

SINA MAASSEN

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GUILLAUME, Dr. Otfried

Specialty: Commercial/Business Law, Marketing Agreements, Patents/Trademarks/

Copyrights, Civil Law, Damages, Collections, Commercial Law, Contracts,

Corporations

Language: English (fluent), French

BIELEFELD

KRAFT, GEIL & KOLLEGEN

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GEIL, Hartmut

Specialty: Insurance, Civil Law, Damages, Contracts, Labor Relations, Auto/Accidents

Language: English (fluent), Italian, Spanish

DR. MÜLLER & KOLLEGEN

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SIMON, Dr. Kai M.

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Specialty: Insurance, Banking/Financial, Commercial/Business Law, Foreign

Investments, Marketing Agreements, Patents/Trademarks/Copyrights,

Civil Law, Criminal Law, Damages, Collections, Commercial Law, Contracts,

Corporations, Foreign Claims, Estates, Labor Relations

Language: English (fluent)

BONN

SCHMITZ KNOTH RECHTSANWÄLTE

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Specialty: International Commercial/Corporate Law, Licensing/Franchising,

Bank/Stock Exchange Law

Language: English (fluent), German, Dutch, French

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Specialty: Insurance, Banking/Financial, Commercial/Business Law,

Foreign Investments, Civil Law, Criminal Law, Commercial Law,

Contracts, Corporations, Foreign Claims, Estates

Language: English (fluent), French, Spanish, Italian

BRILON

*ZILLIKENS & ROGALL RECHTSANWÄLTE

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ZILLIKENS, Jürgen

Specialty: Family Law, Child Custody, Parental Child Abduction, Marriage/Divorce,

Civil Law, Criminal Law, Labor Relations, Auto/Accidents

Language: English (good), French

BRÜHL

ROSS Ulrich

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Specialty: Family Law, Adoptions, Marriage/Divorce

Language: English (fluent)

DORTMUND

HIMMELMANN-POHLMANN

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Insurance, Banking/Financial, Commercial/Business Law, Foreign Investments, Marketing Agreements, Civil Law, Damages, Collections, Commercial Law, Contracts, Corporations, Foreign Claims, Estates, Taxes, Government Relations, Labor Relations, Auto/Accidents, Notary

Language: English (fluent, French (good)

DR. KÖSTER & PÜHLER, RECHTSANWÄLTE

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PÜHLER, Karl-Otto

Specialty: Commercial/Business Law, Civil Law, Damages, Collections, Commercial Law,

Contracts, Corporations, Foreign Claims, Estates, Taxes, Labor Relations,

Immigration, Auto/Accidents, Certified Translator, Notary

<u>Language</u>: English (fluent) **PÜHLER-SCHULZ, Anke**

Specialty: Family Law, Adoptions, Child Custody, Parental Child Abduction, Marriage/

Divorce, Insurance, Civil Law, Damages, Collections, Commercial Law, Contracts, Transportation Law, Foreign Claims, Estates, Labor Relations,

Immigration, Auto/Accidents, Certified Translator

Language: English (fluent), French (good), Spanish (limited), Portuguese (limited)

DÜSSELDORF

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Specialty: Criminal Law, Damages, Narcotics, Labor Relations, Immigration,

Auto/Accidents

<u>Language</u>: English (good), Spanish (fluent)

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Specialty: Family Law, Adoptions, Child Custody, Parental Child Abduction, Marriage/

Divorce, Insurance, Banking/Financial, Commercial/Business Law, Foreign Investments, Marketing Agreements, Patents/Trademarks/Copyrights, Civil Law,

Contracts, Corporations, Foreign Claims, Estates, Labor Relations

Language: English (fluent)

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Commercial/Business Law, Foreign Investments, Marketing Agreements, Civil Law, Criminal Law, Damages, Narcotics, Commercial Law, Contracts, Corporations, Foreign Claims, Estates, Taxes, Government Relations,

Labor Relations, Immigration, Auto/Accidents

Language: English (fluent), German, French, Spanish, Russian

KORT RECHTSANWÄLTE GbR

Eller Str. 123/125, 40227 Düsseldorf, Tel.: (0211) 47801-1, Fax: (0211) 4780114,

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KORT Peter H.

Specialty: Insurance, Commercial/Business Law, Marketing Agreements,

Patents/Trademarks/Copyrights, Civil Law, Collections, Commercial Law, Contracts, Transportation Law, Foreign Claims, Government Relations

Language: English (fluent), French, Spanish

KRIEGER FROESE & KOLLEGEN

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KRIEGER, Dr. jur. H. Jochen

Specialty: Trademarks/Copyrights, Civil Law

Language: English

TAYLOR WESSING

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Specialty: Commercial Law, Contracts, Litigation

English: English (fluent)

DR. RADEMACHER & PARTNER

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Specialty: Criminal Law + Extradition Proceedings, Immigration.

<u>Language</u>: English (fluent)

DUISBURG

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Language: English (fluent)

ESSEN

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GELSENKIRCHEN

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Narcotics, Auto/Accidents

Language: English (good) Italian

GOCH

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Labor Relations, Auto/Accidents

Language: English (fluent), Dutch

KLEVE

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Language: English (fluent), Spanish (limited)

KÖLN (COLOGNE)

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ANDÖRFER, Dr. Adolf

Specialty: Commercial/Business Law, Patents/Trademarks/Copyrights, Commercial Law,

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Certified Translator English (good), French

FELLMANN, Georg N.

Language:

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Estates, Labor Relations, Auto/Accidents

Language: English (fluent), French (limited)

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<u>*PAUKA, Benedikt</u>

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<u>Specialty</u>: Criminal Law, Antitrust Law <u>Language</u>: English (fluent), French (fluent)

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Specialty: Family Law, Adoptions, Child Custody, Parental Child Abduction,

Child Protection, Marriage/Divorce, Insurance, Banking/Financial,

Commercial/Business Law, Foreign Investments, Marketing Agreements,

Patents/Trademarks/Copyrights, Civil Law, Damages, Collections,

Commercial Law, Contracts, Transportation Law, Corporations, Aeronautical/Maritime, Foreign Claims, Estates, Taxes, Labor Relations, Immigration,

Auto/Accidents

<u>Language</u>: English (fluent)

RÖLLINGHOFF, Elke H.

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Specialty: Family Law, Adoptions, Child Custody, Marriage/Divorce, Mediation, Civil Law,

Damages, Auto/Accidents

Language: English (good), French (limited)

KREFELD

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Business Law, Civil Law, Criminal Law, Damages, Collections,

Commercial Law, Contracts, Corporations, Traffic Law, Foreign Claims, Estates,

Taxes, Labor Relations, Auto/Accidents

<u>Language</u>: English (fluent), French (good)

MÖNCHENGLADBACH

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Specialty: Marriage/Divorce, Civil Law, Criminal Law, Damages, Narcotics,

Auto/Accidents

<u>Language</u>: English (limited)

MÜHLHEIM/RUHR

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Specialty: Family Law, Marriage Law, Commercial/Business Law, Civil Law, Criminal Law,

Damages, Collections, Commercial Law, Contracts, Transportation Law, Corporations, Foreign Claims, Estates, Labor Relations, Auto/Accidents

<u>Language</u>: English (fluent), French (fluent), Spanish (fluent)

PADERBORN

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Marriage/Divorce, Insurance, Civil Law, Damages, Collections, Contracts, Specialty:

Estates, Labor Relations, Auto/A

English (good) Language:

WÜLFRATH

*DÜNOW, Oliver

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Marriage/Divorce, Civil Law, Criminal Law, Damages, Contracts,

Labor Relations, Auto/Accidents

English (fluent), French (good) Language: